

# **NEWS RELEASE**

### OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

### **TODD P. GRAVES**

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs ● (816) 426-4220 ● 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 ● Kansas City, MO 64106

WWW.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

JULY 20, 2005 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PROJECT CEASEFIRE KC MAN INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL FIREARM

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Today's indictment, Graves said, is part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

**Ontario D. Lewis**, 27, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City with being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Lewis** was in possession of a High Standard .22-caliber revolver on June 15, 2005. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Lewis** has two 1998 criminal felony conviction for fraud.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Stefan C. Hughes. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in this indictments is simply an accusation and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

#### **Project Ceasefire**

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

\*\*\*\*\*

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at <a href="https://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow">www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow</a>